

Law Enforcement News

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Rethinking stopping power

Bean bags, capture nets gain in popularity

Before there were Taser guns and pepper spray, there was the capture net and bean bag ammunition. Although the former have remained popular with law enforcement agencies seeking less-than-lethal force options, the popularity among police of nets and impact rounds has seemed to wax and wane over the years. Now, however, interest in capture nets and bean-bag rounds seems once again to be on the upswing, with a number of departments using them effectively in standoffs with lightly armed suspects.

Perhaps chief among the reasons for the less-than-lethal approaches returning to vogue is that they can significantly reduce a department's liability, as well as quell community outcry over the use of deadly force — especially when the victim was considered to be mentally disturbed.

In both Los Angeles and New York City this year, police were roundly criticized for such officer-involved shootings. LAPD officers killed a knife-wielding homeless woman in May; four months later, a man with a history of mental illness who attacked an NYPD sergeant with a hammer was fatally shot in Brooklyn. A grand jury chose not to indict officers in that case.

Less-than-lethal alternatives are also relatively inexpensive for departments to adopt, and training in the use of nets and bean-bag rounds can take less than two days, said Sgt. Jim Clark, an instructor at the Tulsa Police Department's training center and a member of its Special Operations Team.

"We thought, 'Hey, this is an inexpensive way we can give our officers some less lethal options. . . .'"

In an interview with Law Enforcement News, Clark said the Tulsa department preaches "the idea of force avoidance — that being trying to avoid the use of force when possible but not at all costs, and then trying to use the least intrusive amount of force you can and neutralize the threat that exists. If we spend a significant amount of money and it keeps one of our officers from having to shoot one of the citizens, I think it is well worth every penny we spend."

The Tulsa force has been using bean-bag rounds — or kinetic batons, as they are called — for about three years, said Sgt. Bill Goree, a training center sergeant. It adopted the ammunition after having successfully used an R-1 round, a weapon that shoots a rubber bullet.

"Because of the success we had with that, and then finding out there had been tests done with the 12-gauge launcher of bean bags, we thought, 'Hey, this is an inexpensive way we can give our

officers some less lethal options they can deploy from a safe distance."

While the department uses pepper spray when the situation is "up close and personal," Goree said, it needed something that would allow officers to "reach out and touch someone" from a distance.

The bean-bag rounds have proved effective in 15 to 20 incidents during that time, he told LEN. The ammunition is issued only to trained field supervisors and is fired through a specially marked 12-gauge shotgun. No rounds are carried in it except for the bean bags, said Goree.

Before using the weapon, the supervisor has to assemble a three-officer team as backup in case the situation escalates to the point where deadly force is necessary. One officer is armed for that purpose, and the other two are designated as control officers who will take custody of the individual after he or she has been disabled by the bean-bag round.

Goree said the less-than-lethal alternative is used when officers are faced with a suspect using any weapon short of a firearm and when the bean-bag ammunition can be deployed safely from a distance. In one incident involving a mentally ill person who had threatened to kill himself and others near the city's downtown bus depot, police successfully captured the man using a kinetic baton. He was hit twice with the bean bags and dropped his weapon.

This past month, however, a Tulsa officer was

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FBI & others keep a close eye on millennium threat from extremists

After conducting a lengthy analysis of the millennium-related ideologies held by political and religious extremists, the FBI believes the potential for violence by such individuals as the new year approaches to be great enough that it has drafted a highly secret report on the issue, and distributed it only to state and local law enforcement.

The study, called "Project Megiddo" after an ancient battleground in Israel associated with Armageddon, is in-

tended to provide a clear picture of potential extremism by groups who attach special theological or technological significance to the Year 2000, according to the bureau. The FBI has carefully guarded against the release of the document to the media, and issued only a single statement after an article about Project Megiddo appeared in USA Today last month.

The FBI has attempted to reach out to militias and explain to members the

agency's role in investigating violations of the law, the statement said. While many of these extremist groups have rid themselves of a violence-prone element, such individuals often form their own splinter groups, committing criminal acts autonomously. More mainstream militia groups, according to the bureau, have been helpful in identifying extremists who may resort to acts of violence.

The report, which was the focus of a law enforcement-only panel discussion at the recent International Association of Chiefs of Police conference, gives an overview of the various extremist ideologies, specifically those that call for violent action beginning in 2000. According to the statement issued by the FBI, the study outlines a number of issues that law enforcement should be aware of, including indicators of potential violence, possible preparations for violence and potential targets of millennial extremists.

Among the groups that could be motivated to criminal behavior are white supremacists seeking to instigate a race war; apocalyptic groups that anticipate a religious Armageddon; and patriot militias that fear 2000 may bring an armed takeover of the United States that will place the country under a one-world government, the report said.

In an interview with the Southern



Another Y2K worry: a member of an extremist militia group on maneuvers.

Poverty Law Center's Klanwatch Project, Robert Blitzer, who heads the FBI effort to handle the threat posed by such groups, said the bureau is working on about 1,000 domestic terrorism conspiracy cases around the country now, compared to fewer than 100 before the Oklahoma City bombing.

"I'm always running a half a dozen to a dozen domestic terrorism intelligence cases — a very small number," Blitzer said. "The vast majority of my

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Internal review under review in Seattle. (Anyone seen the files?)

As if the Seattle Police Department had not already had its ability to police itself called into question by allegations of a theft and cover-up by veteran detectives and the subsequent appointment of a citizen review panel to examine the way internal police investigations are conducted, the FBI is now looking into how confidential materials gathered by that review board disappeared while in police custody.

The missing-files incident erupted just weeks after the department and city officials in September embraced the recommendations of the four-member review panel, chief among them the

appointment of a civilian to head an Office of Public Accountability (OPA) to direct internal investigations.

Although the panel did not find widespread corruption within the department, it said that the public and some officers had lost confidence in the agency's ability to conduct internal investigations. The committee, led by retired King County Superior Court Judge Charles Johnson, offered 21 recommendations, including:

¶ The establishment of a "bright line" rule that states lying, cheating or stealing would not be tolerated and would result in termination.

¶ A more direct and authoritative role by the Chief in training and the internal investigation process, including regular meetings with the director of the OPA.

¶ The appointment of a department ethics officer, who would have overall responsibility for ensuring compliance with the agency's ethical standards and the procedures developed to enforce them. Capt. Jim Pryor, who most recently headed the Audit and Inspections Section, was named to the post.

¶ Instituting a more comprehensive "early warning system" to identify of

Around the Nation

Northeast



CONNECTICUT — A study performed by the national police consultant Carroll Buracker & Associates has found that the Hartford Police Department is lacking in training, supervision and other basic functions. Even though \$7 million in Federal funds has come into the city for community policing, the five-month study found, too many cops were still at desk jobs. The study found that more than 20 police officers have been arrested in on- and off-duty incidents during the last six years.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA — Police Officer Milton Downing admitted in Federal court Oct. 27 that he attempted to shoot his girlfriend last July.

MARYLAND — The town of Rising Sun was expected to decline a six-figure crime-fighting grant that it feels will label the town a "hot spot" for crime. The town had been invited to join the state's HotSpots program, but Mayor Salie Teague said the idea was a non-starter. The HotSpots program, launched in 1997, has given three-year grants totaling \$10.5 million to 36 communities, and state officials say serious crime has plummeted an average of 25 percent in those communities. This year, the state added \$3.5 million to the program and will name more than 30 new HotSpots neighborhoods.

Baltimore police might be videotaping incidents soon, thanks to the enthusiasm of Mayor Kurt Schmoke, who wants to have 150 cars equipped with video surveillance equipment over the coming months. The effort to install the cameras has been stepped up since the shooting of Larry Hubbard Jr. in the back by Officer Barry W. Hamilton during an Oct. 7 arrest attempt.

NEW HAMPSHIRE — The 1997 drunken-driving conviction of former Portsmouth Police Commissioner Robert Ricci was upheld Oct. 20 by the state Supreme Court. Ricci had argued that police entered his home without a warrant when they came to arrest him.

NEW JERSEY — Richard Conte resigned as director of the Orange Police Department on Oct. 19. Although he is the third official to leave the department since a Federal investigation began onto the department's handling of a murder investigation, he denied that his resignation was related to the case. The Federal probe has focused on the in-custody death of Earl Faison, 27, after he had been arrested in the shooting of Officer Joyce Anne Carnegie on April 18. Faison was later cleared in the killing.

An 18-year Irvington police veteran, Catalino Santiago, 48, was shot and killed Oct. 24 while off-duty at a social club with relatives and friends. The shooting followed an argument and fistfight. Angel Luis Perez, 21, was arrested the next day.

Washington Township Cpl. Steven L. Levy, 35, was killed Oct. 21 while responding to a domestic disturbance by a suspect who later killed himself. Levy was shot in the face by Michael DeMore, 32, a former truck driver with a history of mental problems.

NEW YORK — Although assaults against teachers in New York City schools are up 15 percent, according to the United Federation of Teachers, the total number of violent incidents dropped almost 20 percent during the 1998-99 school year — the first year in which the Police Department oversaw school security.

There were 244 cases filed this year against police officers at New York City's Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings, up from 144 the year before. The Patrolmen's Benevolent Association charges that the 60-percent increase is the work of a politically motivated decision by the Police Department to take more cops to trial, in response to public criticism that the NYPD does not discipline its cops harshly enough.

Nassau County officials have announced plans to hold its police officer entry exam in 2000, after funds for the test were included in the county's proposed budget. The examination attracts thousands of applicants lured by a pay scale that starts at \$25,500 and climbs to more than \$73,000 in the seventh year for officers with a college degree.

Sex offenders on probation in Rochester must now take polygraph tests to make sure that they do not commit crimes. Those failing the tests will be required to wear ankle bracelets to alert authorities to their whereabouts.

Capt. James O'Connor of the New York City Police Department allegedly drove his unmarked car through a closed lane of the Throgs Neck Bridge while drunk on Oct. 21, killing a construction worker. O'Connor was released on bail just as police arrested another officer, Fanti Carter, on charges that she drove her vehicle through barriers used to block a road undergoing repaving. She was also said to be intoxicated and refused a breath test.

A Federal appeals court has ruled that Oneonta police officers did not violate the Constitution in 1992 when they tried to stop every black man in town after a woman said she had been robbed at her home. Racial profiling was ruled out in the case, because officers were trying to find a suspect in a specific crime based on a description. After the incident, police obtained a list of black students at the State University of New York campus and questioned 78 of them, and then stopped and questioned 200 nonwhite men over five days following the reported crime.

The two-year sentence imposed on former New York City police Lieut. Patricia Feerick was commuted Oct. 26 by Gov. George Pataki. Feerick had been convicted of illegally raiding two East Harlem apartments and terrorizing their occupants in 1990. She and other officers were apparently looking for a missing police radio.

PENNSYLVANIA — Pittsburgh police officials say an audit had identified 21 officers who exhibited behavior that warranted further attention. The audit found that five officers used force more often than other officers; four received complaints or showed signs of racial bias; four had an unusual number of searches and seizures, and four pulled over unusual numbers of male or female motorists. The audit is part

of a 1997 agreement between the city and the Justice Department stemming from complaints about civil rights violations. [See LEN, Oct. 31, 1999.]

A Federal appeals court has ruled in favor of nine white men whose 1993 lawsuit against the Pittsburgh police force charged that they were passed over for hiring because of their race. The appellate panel on Oct. 18 upheld a lower court ruling that also said the men should be hired and paid nearly \$900,000 in lost wages and legal expenses. From 1975 to 1991, the department used a quota system to hire equal numbers of white males, white females, black males and black females.

VERMONT — Joseph Montagno, a convicted burglar serving a community-service sentence at the Orleans County sheriff's evidence room, faces charges that he stole more than 30 weapons from the room. Police were alerted to the crimes only after they stopped Montagno's alleged accomplice, James P. Kelley, in an unrelated matter and found a cache of weapons.



ALABAMA — Jefferson County began enforcing a 10 P.M. weekday curfew and midnight weekend curfew for anyone under 17, under a new law that went into effect Nov. 1. Teams of school deputies were set to issue fines ranging from \$250 to \$20,000.

Kenly Police Chief Larry Carter was under investigation by state authorities after an Oct. 16 complaint that he assaulted his wife's former husband. A neighbor reportedly broke up the fight.

ARKANSAS — A Little Rock police officer who has a sleep disorder has crashed five cars, according to authorities there. Officer Carlton Ockerson was urged to see a sleep specialist in 1997, after he fell asleep during a defensive driving class. Besides wrecking the patrol cars, the officer has been caught sleeping on duty six times in the last four years.

State troopers left a convicted killer in an unattended Little Rock dayroom on Oct. 8, allowing him to escape. Mark Stone, convicted in the 1984 beating death of his girlfriend, was being housed in State Police prison barracks as part of a halfway-house program.

The Bella Vista Property Owners Association may contract for law-enforcement services from the Benton County sheriff's office, after a recent lawsuit involving the association's private police force. The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission filed suit in September charging the association with illegally firing a sheriff's deputy for reporting sexual harassment complaints against Chief Deputy Jim Wozniak, who heads the Bella Vista division of the sheriff's office.

State Police officials are reassigned troopers from Federal task forces to a new strike force targeting violent drug dealers associated with organized crime. The State Police Violent Crime/Narcotics Strike Force will include up

to eight state police investigators, two OEA investigators and other personnel from the State Police Intelligence Unit.

Incomplete investigations by the State Police's Family Protection Unit rose by 16 percent from May to July. The special unit was created by the Legislature in 1997 to investigate child abuse allegations. Under provisions of a lawsuit filed in 1992, the unit must close at least 80 percent of its cases within 30 days. Police responded that cases could not be closed efficiently in just one month.

Helena police Lieut. Perry Byrd was named police chief on Oct. 27. Byrd replaced Ray Price, who resigned to take a job with the DeSoto County, Miss., sheriff's office.

FLORIDA — Jasper Police Officer Calvin Jerry Powell, 27, died in a head-on crash early Sept. 25 after a high-speed chase in which the car he was chasing suddenly spun around and turned off its lights.

GEORGIA — Rockdale County Superior Court Judge Sidney Nation has rejected the Sheriff's Department's practice of selling confiscated guns, charging that the weapons just get back into the hands of criminals. Sheriff Jeff Wigington said the decision could cost the department up to \$5,000 per year. The county had been selling up to 90 guns each year, but destroying those used in crimes.

LOUISIANA — New Orleans police officers Daniel Chauvin Jr. and Brian Oanigole lost their medals for valor after it was found that civilian bystanders rescued a woman who drove her car into a canal, and not the officers.

MISSISSIPPI — Money from a charity bingo operation was allegedly funneled into the re-election campaign of Bolivar County Sheriff Mack Grimmett, according to the Mississippi Gaming Commission. The chief, a sheriff's dispatcher and two firemen are accused of diverting \$4,500.

Lucedale Mayor Doug Lee has placed Police Chief Terry Myhre on probation after citizens complained that police do not actively attempt to stop drug deals in city parks.

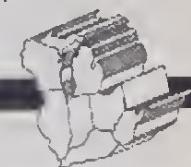
NORTH CAROLINA — David Wayne Brewer, a Winston-Salem man charged with driving under the influence, has filed suit against Guilford County District Attorney Jim Kimel. Brewer is challenging a state law that revokes the licenses of drunken-driving suspects before they face criminal charges in court. Observers say the law may violate the constitutional ban on double jeopardy.

SOUTH CAROLINA — About a dozen North Charleston police officers are participating in a voluntary program to learn self-defense techniques. The program, offered by the Japan Karate Institute, is available to the officers at no cost. Although officers are trained with their weapons twice a year, they felt they needed more follow-up on their academy self-defense training.

TENNESSEE — Memphis Police Officer Oon Overton, 35, died Oct. 12 after his squad car was hit by a vehicle carrying four theft suspects who were fleeing police. The four juvenile sus-

pects, whose names were not released, were all said to have criminal records and were riding in a stolen car with a gun in their possession, after allegedly robbing a department store.

Midwest



MICHIGAN — ONA tests have linked the rapes of seven Detroit schoolgirls to two unidentified men, according to Detroit Police Chief Benny Napoleon. In an eighth incident, Tyson Logan, 28, was arraigned on charges relating to the Sept. 29 rape of a 16-year-old Oenby High School student.

A serial killer may be responsible for the slayings of four Flint women with histories of drug abuse and prostitution, investigators now believe. The bodies of all four women, who were black and in their late 20s or 30s, were found in or near abandoned houses.

OHIO — When Todd Hummons's uncle called 911 in Cincinnati on Oct. 31 to say that Hummons had admitted killing his girlfriend, the dispatcher mistakenly transferred the call to a local Pizza Hut. The dispatcher, whose name was not released, tried to transfer the call to police in Covington, Ky., where the crime had occurred, but misdialed. After a second attempt to transfer the man, she then asked him to call Covington police himself. The two phone numbers differ by one digit. Tiffany Hall, 20, was found dead on the same day in her Covington home.

Following the U.S. Department of Justice's filing of a lawsuit against the Columbus Police Department, the National Fraternal Order of Police has said it will use all legal and legislative avenues to support the department. The FOP said that Justice Department demands would violate parts of the officers' contract with the city. [See LEN, Oct. 31, 1999.]

The investigation of New Richmond Police Chief Landon Williams has been halted after allegations of malfeasance were dismissed by Mayor Jack Gooding at a public meeting on Oct. 19. The allegations involved Williams's leadership abilities. The village council has suggested that the Mayor acted inappropriately by dismissing the charges at the meeting.

Fairfield has dropped a sexual-harassment charge against police Lieut. Ken Colburn after reaching a settlement. A female police officer had filed a complaint over a suggestive message Colburn had allegedly posted on a department Halloween party flier last year.

A Buckeye State Poll found that 62 percent of Ohioans believe handgun laws should be more restrictive. Some 42 percent of those surveyed also said they didn't think changing the handgun laws would reduce violent crime.

Cincinnati officer Rebecca Hopkins has sued the city, the police department and the officer who fired a blank round at her at close range during a training exercise last year. Hopkins was shot in the lower back by training officer David Simpson with a .38-caliber blank round, which put her in critical condition. She

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lost her spleen and left kidney because of the blast, but nonetheless became a beat officer in July.

WEST VIRGINIA — Toxic jimson weed is the newest drug of choice for young West Virginians. At least five poisonings were reported in each of two weeks in early October. The victims have been mostly teenagers.

Welch city police are investigating an incident in which three state troopers allegedly broke into the residence of Neil Rose on Oct. 9 and beat him. Rose, who had called 911 about gunshots fired by troopers, suffered three broken ribs. Troopers filed criminal complaints charging Rose with breaking and entering and assault on an officer. Placed on administrative leave without pay were Troopers T.C. Bledsoe, Gary Messenger and R.W. Hinzman.



IOWA — Motorists blaring loud music were the subject of a ticketing crackdown by a four-officer team from the Des Moines Police Department that began on Oct. 18.

KANSAS — The number of pursuit-related serious crashes in the state rose dramatically from 99 in 1993 to 206 last year, authorities reported. Twenty deaths resulted from 961 pursuit-related accidents during that period.

The Wyandotte County Sheriff's Office must serve 20,000 felony arrest warrants for offenses ranging from aggravated robbery to assaults. Sheriff Leroy Green said the warrants had been neglected due to the oversight of past administrations.

MINNESOTA — The 23-year-old man convicted for his role in the 1996 murder of St. Joseph Police Officer Brian Klinefelter was sentenced Oct. 27 to 19½ years in prison. Kenneth Roering Jr. pleaded guilty in July following two mistrials. The suspect who pulled the trigger in the shooting was shot and killed by a sheriff's deputy.

A new Duluth pistol range was dedicated on Oct. 30 for use by police, the Minnesota Army Reserve, and the Air National Guard and Naval Reserve. The new range was built using donated labor, and will be used in part to teach police about "use-of-force" skills, including defensive tactics and the use of pepper spray, batons and firearms.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Department has cut its response time for calls by moving its patrol base from the department's main office in Superior to the more centrally located Hawthorne. The new substation is equipped with four work-stations and other amenities for the 16-member patrol division.

MISSOURI — Jefferson County police in October found more than 100 methamphetamine labs located on a 10-acre site near St. Louis. Three arrests were made in connection with the open-air cooking labs.

Kansas City resident Helen Chappell found \$82,000 in the gas tank of a 1995

Volkswagen she purchased "as is" from the Federal Government, but the U.S. Department of Justice wants the cash and the car because it suspects the vehicle was used in drug activity three years ago. Chappell is fighting the agency's seizure of the vehicle.

Former Missouri Highway Patrol officer Janet Rice has filed a \$15-million Federal lawsuit alleging that for 22 years she endured obscene gestures and was offered promotions in return for sex, among other acts of harassment. Rice, 46, left the patrol last year amid proceedings intended to demote her for what she calls an error in her expense account. She charges that male officers have never been punished for similar mistakes. The matter apparently concerned an altered meal receipt from a DARE conference in California.

NEBRASKA — The deployment of a helicopter unit has done little to cut down on the number of police pursuits in Omaha, according to a report in The Omaha World-Herald. After two years of the helicopter program, the number of chases has remained close to 200 per year, and the city has had to shell out up to \$1 million per year in compensation to people who were injured during the pursuits. Through July of this year, there were 104 chases, 31 of which resulted in accidents. Lieut. Tom Donaghy, who commands the police helicopter unit, said a helicopter had assisted in 51 vehicle pursuits last year and 21 during the first half of this year.

The Nebraska State Patrol is under investigation by the U.S. Labor Department for allegedly requiring troopers to work unpaid overtime.

SOUTH DAKOTA — The state's two boot camps for juvenile offenders may be shut down if state Representative Ron Volesky has his way. Volesky said the camps are ineffective and too expensive, and siphon money that could be used for prevention programs.

WYOMING — An anonymous phone tip about a possible drunk driver does not give police the authority to make a stop, according to a recent ruling by the state Supreme Court. The ruling came in the case of a man charged with marijuana possession after police acted on an anonymous tip.



ARIZONA — Phoenix police are once again using pepper spray after a review found that use of the spray was not inappropriate. The death of one man and the hospitalization of another after they had been sprayed prompted the review.

A judge has been asked to stop the Maricopa County Attorney's Office from prosecuting 100 drunk driving cases, after it was found that a crime lab possessed a secret file of errors and failed tests.

COLORADO — Boulder County Sheriff's Detective Heidi Burch received the Beth Haynes Memorial Award for helping to establish the department's three-year-old domestic

violence unit. The award is named for the last Boulder police officer killed in the line of duty, who was killed when responding to a report that a man was trying to break into his girlfriend's apartment.

An unidentified 17-year-old student at Columbine High School in Littleton was jailed Oct. 19 on charges of inciting destruction of life or property, after he allegedly threatened to "finish the job" of the gunmen who shot up the school last spring. In a related development, the final number of families expected to sue the Jefferson County School District over the Columbine High shootings rose to 18 on Oct. 18, and 16 notices of intent to sue the county Sheriff's Department have also been filed. The notices do not mean that suits will be filed, but protect a plaintiff's right to do so in the future. Amounts being sought in the cases range from \$100,000 to \$10 million.

No more used and confiscated guns will be traded in by the Montrose County Sheriff's Department, which vowed to voluntarily stop the practice after one last swap to help equip deputies with uniform Glock pistols. The department had traded guns with Colorado Springs dealers who were later charged with selling the same guns illegally to convicted felons.

A killer of homeless men is prowling Denver's Lower Downtown district, authorities said. Five men have all been found beaten to death in the same manner over the past six weeks. A \$100,000 reward has been offered in the case, but little evidence has emerged thus far. The latest victim was discovered on Oct. 22.

NEW MEXICO — Las Cruces police began patrolling Mayfield High School in mid-October after an incident in which three masked students carried a bat, tire iron and metal rod into an algebra class and said they were looking for a particular student. Officials said they would try to beef up security at all local high schools until the end of the school year. The three teenagers were arrested in the foiled attack.

OKLAHOMA — Broken Arrow launched a Y2K drill on Oct. 13 that included a mock hostage exercise at the Blue Bell ice cream factory. Simulated problems included evacuations, mass casualties, a Y2K extremist on a rampage, and traffic-control problems, but all went smoothly, according to Roger Moore, the city's emergency management director.

TEXAS — Three Dallas County sheriff's deputies fired four shots outside Farine Elementary School in Irving after Richard Kevin Chandler Jr., 35, a man with a history of nonviolent crime, drove his pickup truck toward them. Chandler, who was wanted on two felony warrants for violating probation, was arrested. Officials apologized for the shooting and imposed new rules stating that deputies may not execute a criminal arrest warrant on school property without the authorization of the Judicial Services Division Commander.

Pleasanton police who wrongly arrested a black businessman, thinking he was related to murder suspect Jeremiah Engleton, have defended their actions. Keith Gordon said he was the victim of

racial harassment after police arrested him on Oct. 16 while they were searching for information about Engleton, who allegedly shot and killed two sheriff's deputies and a Department of Public Safety trooper Oct. 12 and then shot himself in the head. Gordon was arrested when police found an unloaded 9mm. handgun in his trunk.

UTAH — A curfew in Pleasant Grove will require children under 18 to be off the streets by 11 P.M. Unaccompanied youths will not be allowed in any public places, including restaurants and convenience stores.

A discount card may be issued to Utah County teens who stay drug-free and pass a drug test. The sheriff's office wants to make the card available in January, and will enlist businesses to discount products and services for teens who present the card.



ALASKA — For the first time in 20 years, the DEA will send two officers to Fairbanks. Resident Agent Zoran Yankovich said meth labs and cocaine rings there had warranted the extra DEA attention.

CALIFORNIA — An Oakland billboard offering drug addicts \$200 in exchange for using birth control was destroyed by protesters moments after it was erected. The billboards were part of a project launched by Barbara Harris, who believes that crack addicts should not give birth to drug-addicted offspring.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Steven Eugene Brown was indicted Oct. 22 for allegedly using the Internet to solicit a teenage girl for sex. Brown, 41, communicated with an undercover special agent posing as a 13-year-old girl and arranged for a meeting. He was arrested after arriving in West Los Angeles for the rendezvous.

San Diego Harbor Police Sgt. Elizabeth Kulka was awarded over a half-million dollars on Oct. 19 in a sexual harassment case. A jury decided that she was the object of retaliation by employees after she complained about receiving brochures about birth control in her work mailbox and about having been signed up for subscriptions to sexually explicit materials.

The San Jose Police Department's only helicopter crashed on Oct. 25, killing the pilot and a mechanic on board. No one on the ground was injured when the 5-year-old aircraft crashed onto a busy street at around 3:45 P.M.

Despite efforts by Los Angeles County to shut down the Great Western Gun Show at the county fairgrounds in Pomona, the event drew thousands over the weekend of Oct. 20. County supervisors had banned sales of weapons and ammunition on county property, but a Federal judge issued a temporary injunction allowing the show to proceed.

The largest single marijuana seizure in California history this year helped to

put the total street value of homegrown pot found by state authorities this year at \$1 billion. The state's Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP) reaped almost a quarter of a million plants. The big bust came on Sept. 10, when 48,000 plants worth an estimated \$192 million were found at a San Benito plantation. The increase in pot farms was linked to a higher concentration of Mexican drug cartel activity in the state.

The Los Angeles County district attorney has cleared two Claremont police officers in the shooting of 18-year-old Irvin Landrum Jr. last Jan. 11. The incident, which followed a traffic stop, gave rise to inconsistencies between one officer's statements and findings by sheriff's detectives. Officer Hany Hanna said Landrum pointed a gun at him and fired, but officials found that Landrum's gun had not been fired. Kent Jacks was the other officer cleared in the case.

A report issued by Los Angeles Police Chief Bernard C. Parks has concluded that Officer Edward Larrigan refused to disarm a woman wielding a screwdriver when she put the weapon in a shopping cart and pushed it toward him on May 21. Larrigan fatally shot the woman, Margaret Mitchell, 55, after she rearmed herself and lunged at him. The Chief also faulted Larrigan for positioning himself too close to the woman. If upheld by the Police Commission, the report may lead to disciplinary action in the case. The highly publicized incident drew a storm of public criticism over the officer's failure to first use non-lethal means to subdue the woman.

HAWAII — Xerox employee Bryan Uyesugi, 40, killed seven people when he walked into the company's Honolulu office and opened fire on Nov. 2. The man was arrested after he drove into a park and surrendered after hours of negotiations with authorities. It was one of the deadliest workplace rampages in the nation's history.

IDAHO — The number of new and reissued gun permits in the state jumped 73 percent between 1997 and 1998, and that pace reportedly continued through the first nine months of this year.

NEVADA — The Reno Police Department in October received a \$296,000 Justice Department grant to develop a field training program for new officers.

WASHINGTON — Nicolas Vasquez, the 28-year-old man who allegedly shot and killed State Trooper James Saunders during an Oct. 7 traffic stop, has been charged with aggravated first-degree murder. Saunders, 31, was found dead at the scene after pulling over Vasquez's pickup truck in Pasco. The vehicle was later recovered in a Kennewick garage, and fingerprints matching those of Vasquez — a Mexican national with multiple drug-related convictions — were on the driver's side door. The circumstances of the shooting were not yet made clear.

Police searches have again been restricted by the state Supreme Court, which ruled that when arresting a motorist, officers are not automatically allowed to search personal items belonging to passengers who are not under arrest. The Nov. 4 decision overturned three drug-related convictions.

Walk, don't run

Samuel Cicchino considers his training as a Federal law enforcement officer to be comparable, even superior, to anything required under Ohio state law. Apparently, though, it's not enough to qualify him as a candidate for county sheriff in Ohio.

Cicchino, who is Deputy Chief U.S. Marshal for the Southern District of Ohio, was told recently that he could not run without being certified by the Ohio Peace Officer Standards and Training Council. A Fairfield County Common Pleas Court in October denied Cicchino's application for candidacy because he did not have state peace-oficer certification, which requires 440 hours of training.

Candidates must apply to the court when seeking office, and pass a criminal background check, in addition to possessing the certification. They must also have worked during the past four years as a full-time peace officer.

"I've been in this business for almost 29 years, I've worked all over the United States, and for them to say I'm not qualified is ridiculous," Cicchino told Law Enforcement News. "So I'm going to see what the U.S. District Court says about it."

Cicchino's attorney filed a Federal lawsuit challenging the requirement on Nov. 1.

Cicchino wants to replace Fairfield County Sheriff Gury R. DeMastry, whose resignation was demanded by the county's Republican Party in September after state audits showed that thousands of taxpayer dollars had been misspent. A special prosecutor investigating DeMastry's office is currently presenting evidence to a grand jury.

Some \$287,257 in public money was found to have been improperly spent from 1994 to 1997, according to state auditor Jim Petro. A second audit found \$42,243 in misspent public funds in 1998. But DeMastry said he will not resign and plans to run in 2000.

As a U.S. marshal, the 55-year-old Cicchino has provided security and protection for witnesses and court personnel, as well as developed training programs and supervised drug seizures. In 1990, while a deputy marshal in California, he ran into the same obstacle in seeking to run for sheriff there. In that case, however, a state Superior Court judge ordered that his name be left off the ballot, ruling that the law would be unreasonable if interpreted to mean that Federal peace officer training and experience were insufficient as qualifications for sheriff, according to a report in The Columbus Dispatch.

Cicchino lost that bid for office.

He called the law in Ohio discriminatory because it impinges on his First and 14th Amendment rights. "I have a right to apply my training. The Marshal's Service training is either equal or superior to the training they have," Cicchino told LEN. "It's a way of keeping law enforcement officers from running in this state. If Louis Freeh, the director of the FBI, came up here and lived here for a year, he couldn't run for sheriff. It's that ridiculous."

Cicchino charged that the Ohio law has been changed several times over the past few years so that incumbents may remain in office.

Call of the wild is one for help

TOP COPS hails Alaska trooper

Rarely does police work sound quite as cinematic as this. An Alaska state trooper receives a call that 10 people are being held at gunpoint by robbers who demand safe passage down a wild and remote river in wilderness 400 miles from Fairbanks. The trooper takes off — alone — to track the suspects down. He captures them, but on the way back his plane's engine fails and he is forced to make an emergency landing.

In the last scene, the trooper books all of the gunmen into the Fairbanks State Jail, where they are all charged with robbery and assault.

Was it an adventure? Sure sounds like it. Was it dangerous? You bet. And that's why the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) chose Trooper Barry Croy from among hundreds of nominees as one of the recipients of its 1999 TOP COPS Award.

Croy and officers from nine other law enforcement agencies were honored by NAPO in a ceremony that took place in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 22. Said the group's executive director,

Robert T. Scully: "The TOP COPS Awards provide an opportunity for all of us to recognize some of the brave men and women in America's law enforcement community who selflessly put their lives on the line day in and day out. Law enforcement officers care deeply about the citizens and communities they serve, and this honor is one way of letting them know their contributions are not taken for granted."

On Sept. 7, 1998, Croy took off in a Cessna, flying two hours to Bettles, a town of fewer than three dozen residents, where he picked

up two unarmed Federal rangers before switching to a pontoon plane. The three then flew another 150 miles to the Kobuk River where the robbery had been committed. With the help of a local native elder, Croy and the rangers found the suspects' hiding place. Many of the five gunmen tried to evade or resist capture, but all were forced onto the plane.

Croy flew back with the suspects, having to leave the rangers behind because there was no more room on board. Just as he was coming into Fairbanks, one of the plane's engines failed. Croy made a successful landing, however, and all of the men were booked. The entire episode ended just 15 hours after it began.

Another TOP COPS winner, Chicago police Sgt. James McMullin, saved the lives of hundreds of senior citizens by beginning an evacuation of their nursing home minutes after smelling gas from a ruptured main outside the building. McMullin used a sledgehammer to gain access to apartments where elderly residents might have been left behind. In all, some 200 senior citizens were successfully removed from the building before the gas exploded.

Los Angeles Police Officers Andy Azodi, Jude Bella, Ryan Clark, Chris Dunn, Kevin J. Foster, Craig Scholfield Hewitt and Cris Yzaguirre were honored for risking their lives to rescue a dying colleague who had been shot by a suspect.

The officers were called to a pornographic film studio as backup by Glendale detective Arthur Frank. His partner, Charles Lazaretto, had been shot by Israel Gonzales, a man wanted in the attempted murder of his girlfriend. With no time to wait for a SWAT team, the officers formulated a plan to save Lazaretto even at the cost of their own lives.



With the 1999 TOP COPS honorees behind him on the White House steps, President Clinton leads the salute to the police heroes.

Gonzales had all the advantages — darkness, concealment, cover and high ground. An intense firefight took place in which Bella was shot in the hand, knee, chest and twice in the back; Foster was hit in the hip, leg, and torso. Still they attempted to pull Lazaretto out until loss of blood made them too weak to continue.

Lazaretto was eventually extracted by the SWAT team, and later died of his injuries. Gonzales was found inside the warehouse, dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Other TOP COPS Award winners included:

¶ Connecticut State Police Troopers First Class Michael Allard and James E. Reidy Jr., and Troopers Michael J. Hoague and Mark Pelletier.

¶ Detroit Police Officers James Henry Lightfoot Jr., Gasper Rossi and Steven Louis Sosa; Sergeants Michael Stefani and James Tolbert, and Lieut. Arthur McNamara.

¶ St. Joseph, Mo., Police Officers Rebecca Caton, Shawn Hamre, Henry Castaneda Pena and Roy W. Wedlow Jr., and Sergeants Steven Gumm, Billy Paul Miller and Terry R. White.

¶ Jersey City, N.J., Police Sgt. Heriberto Carattini.

¶ Poughkeepsie, N.Y., Police Det. Karl Skip Mannin.

¶ Johnston, R.I., Police Sgt. Michael A. Calenda and Officer Thomas H. Dolan.

¶ United States Park Police Officers Robert Louis Freeman 3d and Kevin J. Nieves.

Mixed emotions

When Newark, N.J., Police Officer David Foster stepped up to the podium at the International Association of Chiefs of Police conference last month, it was mixed emotions that he accepted the IACP Parade magazine Police Officer of the Year award.

Foster remains haunted by the memory of how close he came to being killed 12 months ago when he tried to shield a rape victim from her murderous boyfriend. At the same time, he is more than a bit unsettled by the realization that his heroic actions indirectly cost him his career.

The incident began when Foster — by all accounts a fine police officer — escorted 22-year-old Malikah Jamison back home. A day earlier, Jamison had accused her boyfriend, Adrian Howell, 27, of raping her and threatening her life. When Foster and Jamison entered the apartment, Howell jumped out from

behind a curtain and began firing at Foster from the end of a dark hallway. Foster was hit twice in the shoulder, but returned fire and killed his attacker.

"He saved my life because he cared," said Janison, in a statement released by award organizers.

The injuries forced Foster into an early retirement after 18 years on the job. "I don't want to retire, I love being a cop," he said. "I hated to get the Police Officer of the Year in this fashion. Don't get me wrong, nothing can please me more. But all of these awards is just another reminder. Not a day goes by that I don't think about it."

Foster believes it was divine intervention that ultimately saved his life. He had returned to his cruiser to get a portable radio before entering Jamison's home, one round fired by Howell lodged in the radio, after Foster had lifted it instinctively to his face when the shooting began. Another shot whizzed right through his hair.

"Your life passes before your eyes," he said. "You want to go outside and see the world one more time. But God had to have been right there for me."

Buck stops here

Oliver "Buck" Revell, a former associate deputy director of the FBI, is putting his 30-plus years of law enforcement experience at the service of others in the field as the new president of the Law Enforcement Training Network.

Revell, whose long career with the bureau included work on the investigation of the terrorist bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Scotland, continues to advise the National Security Council, the Pentagon and the Justice Department on issues including organized crime, terrorism, white-collar crime and drug enforcement. As president of LETN, he will oversee content and program development at the satellite television and Internet-delivered training network, as well as marketing initiatives aimed at building stronger relationships with local, state and Federal law enforcement agencies.

"I want to use my 37 years of law enforcement experience and my relationship with law enforcement at all levels to help LETN reach the potential of becoming the vital vehicle of communications within the law enforcement community for learning, training, and professionalism, and to ensure that law enforcement has the very best information and data available today," Revell said in a statement.

Peter Gudmundson, president of PRIMEDIA Workplace Learning, LETN's parent company, said Revell shares the firm's strong conviction that police agencies and officers must avail themselves of the best education and training to accomplish law enforcement goals.

"Law enforcement in this country is very diverse and yet the required level of training and the standards of training should be the same," said Revell.

**People & Places —
because policing is a
people business.**

Cops learn to handle suspects in the water

Given the profusion of rivers, canals, bays and inlets in Broward County, Fla., law enforcement officers there are being taught how to defend themselves and control suspects while submerged in the water as proficiently as if they were on dry land.

Eight training instructors from around the county participated in a three-day course in September where they learned basic techniques for staying alive if an offender should pull them into one of the numerous waterways that crisscross the area. Participants were required to wear their bulletproof vests, gun belts and work shoes as they plunged into the water. After a day of training at the Central Park Pool in Plantation, the group advanced to waters that were 14 to 18 feet, said Sheriff's Deputy Wally Haywood, a safety training coordinator who proposed the course.

Haywood said that while he could

not recall a case in Broward County in which an officer drowned while subduing a suspect, there have been instances in which suspects have drowned, he said. Departmental policy states that officers who are patrolling solo do not have go after suspects who are in the water, said Haywood.

"My concern is do we have to wait for it to happen before we offer the training? What happens if you chase me and we go falling off a bridge, or the edge of a canal?" he asked. The deputy recalled that several years ago, when he was a canine handler, he was forced to swim across a deep canal to where his dog had apprehended a suspect on the other side.

"I'm a good swimmer," said Haywood, "but what if someone is not a good swimmer? Are they going to be able to tread water enough to get out?"

Although the training academy requires swimming, proficiency in the

skill is not required after graduation. The new course does not teach swimming, Haywood told Law Enforcement News, but rather how to apply the use-of-force continuum in the water. For example, the instructors were shown how to separate themselves from offenders who might be trying to drag them under and keep them back by extending their batons and slapping the water.

Service revolvers will also work when wet, if deadly force is necessary to keep an officer from drowning. "If I'm fighting you and now I figure I can't get away, you stick the gun right in his chest and pull the trigger; it'll go off," Haywood said. But unless the weapon is professionally cleaned immediately following the incident, it will rust severely.

For the exercise, the instructors used old body armor and gun belts from the property room, and practice guns.

Haywood, whose usual athletic pursuits include basketball and karate, described the training as among the most physically demanding he has ever been involved in.

"It became very stressful when we were treading water and couldn't see our instructor," he told LEN. "In the pool it was okay because you could see him, but we took our boats out to the Intracoastal Waterway. The next thing you know, you're looking around, you know he just jumped off the boat somewhere — and he had incredible lung capacity. All of a sudden you're being pulled under. When he pulled me, we went to the bottom."

The training should also be useful in rescuing drowning victims, which the department does not do. Each vehicle carries a floatation device attached to a hundred foot rope. Officers are taught to throw the device beyond the person and tow the victim in.

"If a police officer has had a bad experience in the water because he didn't know how to swim or had no experience in the water, he won't go near the water," said Dr. Jane Katz, a professor of health and physical education at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a former Olympic swimmer. "But one's job can always transcend the normal description of what they are supposed to do."

Even if police learned the basics of how to tread water while wearing all of their equipment and clothes, it would go a long way toward improving their safety, she told LEN. Comfort, safety and survival skills in the water are paramount, especially with the number of recreational accidents that occur each year. Some 10,000 youngsters a year drown less than 10 feet from shore, said Katz.

Learning how to stay afloat in the water while carrying weight is progressive training, noted Katz, who has taught water survival skills at Fort Benning, Ga., and is the author of several books on swimming and water exercise techniques.

"You are not necessarily able to stay above the water, because it's difficult," she said. "But you do a bob and you come up for air. You scull hard and then you relax. If you're moving forward, it's a swimming motion as you move toward your destination, get another breath and you can continue."

Marine patrol officers, who often have to tangle with intoxicated boaters, will get a two-day instruction class, said Haywood. He is planning to offer a one-day version of the water survival skills course to rank-and-file officers next spring.

Going mobile: Louisville tries new approach to containing civil unrest

It may never be used, but a new type of riot-control strategy is nonetheless being taught to more than 600 Louisville, Ky., police officers, in hopes that the approach can effectively contain civil unrest in multiple locations before the violence has a chance to spread.

Over a three-month period beginning in September, officers were trained in what the Police Division is calling a mobile field force system. Instead of a standard military model, in which officers stand in long lines facing rioters, the new tactics calls for deploying officers in smaller, more flexible groups. Traveling four to a car, a special squad of 80 officers can be sent anywhere in the city to contain civil unrest before it explodes into full-scale mayhem.

"For those who were in the military, that process was pretty simple," said Capt. John Reed, commander of the community development unit. "But for those who were never in the military, it was confusing. So we were looking for a different way to respond."

"Most people think of civil disturbances as one large group, but in fact, that may not always be the case," Reed told Law Enforcement News. "You may

have several different areas that you need to respond to. The way things used to go years ago, everyone would pile on to a bus and go to a certain location. You can see where the problem lies — you can't respond effectively."

The idea of training a group of officers to respond in the more flexible fashion had been floated several years ago, but had been shelved until the department underwent an administrative shift with the appointment of Chief Gene Sherrard in May, said Reed.

The program is modeled on one used by the Miami Police Department for nearly a dozen years. According to Miami Police Officer Angel Calzadilla, officials there discovered that the most effective way to respond to civil disturbances was with a field force that includes a commander assigned to 10 vehicles of up to four officers each. The unit can be split up to handle disturbances in different areas of the city. Each year, said Calzadilla, the MPD practices and refines the techniques.

"It's all done as a team," he told LEN. "Nobody responds individually. Everybody has assignments, such as an arrest team that would be behind with

the shields and the helmets. When it comes time to deploy gas, we are numbered odds and evens so 'ones' will take the front line with the shields while the 'twos' put on their gas masks, then they switch."

Louisville officials were apparently so impressed with the program that they sent a representative to Miami several years ago to study it, then customized it to meet local needs. "We ended up having a special squad of about 80 people that would respond in an expedient fashion to any kind of problems that would come up," said Reed.

The riot training was expanded to include the entire force, however, because the department found that it would not always be possible to pull in all members of the team. "Due to people being on vacation, or just depending on the circumstances, it may cause us some kind of problem," he said.

During a mock call-out, only 50 or 60 of the officers could be rounded up. It made more sense, Reed said, to train everyone so that there would always be enough officers knowledgeable in the approach on hand in an emergency.

The LPD also has a 73-member

Rapid Anti-Disturbance unit (RAD), which deals with high-profile officer and civilian rescues, among other tasks. The RAD unit receives as its basic training what the department is now teaching its rank-and-file officers, plus more advanced instruction in specialized tactics. Instructing officers on the mobile field force strategy, said Reed, is a way of getting the entire department "reading from the same sheet of music."

Lieut. Col. Ed Blaser, associate chief in charge of special police units, told The Louisville Courier-Journal that the decision to do the training now is unrelated to the recent public outcry over allegations of police brutality.

Community groups have been pushing city officials to create a civilian police review board and have stated that they will ask the Justice Department to sue the city if its efforts to bring about change through administrative and legislative channels do not succeed.

In September, a grand jury declined to indict two officers who fatally shot a car-theft suspect, Desmond Rudolph. Rudolph died several days later while in jail, after having allegedly been beaten by correction officers.

Anti-crime message: 'Shame on you'

What worked for the Puritans 300 years ago still appears to be working today for San Antonio community police officers, who are using public shaming to keep some probationers from recommitting crimes.

San Antonio Fear-Free Environment, a program launched in 1997, forces offenders to display signs announcing the crimes they have committed. Bexar County Court-at-Law Judge Karen Crouch has made it a condition of probation in some cases. Nearly a dozen graffiti vandals throughout the city now have signs erected in front of their homes reading, "Graffiti Offender on Probation Lives Here."

It is a drastic step, conceded Officer Robert "Rosie" Rosales, but a necessary one. "I think it's going to help because it's embarrassing to hang a sign," he said. "People know."

In the case of one 17-year-old graffiti tagger, Adam Cantu, probation that included a public pronouncement of his offense has helped keep him out of further trouble. "Ever since then, I haven't been doing the graffiti," said Cantu, who is planning to earn his high school equivalency diploma and join the military.

San Antonio is not alone in applying the strategy. Two years ago, a state district judge in Houston ordered a teenager convicted of intoxication manslaughter to carry a sign outside a bar that said, "I killed two people while driving drunk down Westheimer."

In Huron, S.D., state's attorney Michael Moore agreed to a plea bargain with a man convicted of assaulting a woman, in which the offender was ordered to walk for three hours wearing a sign that said, "Stop Domestic

Abuse."

Moore said that he has been using shame as a tactic in domestic-abuse cases for about a year. Although two of the three defendants he has made wear signs during that time went on to reoffend, the aim of the strategy is less to curb recidivism than to increase public awareness.

"I consider domestic violence a private crime that usually happens in the privacy of someone's home and the public may read about it but never see it," he told Law Enforcement News. "Making a defendant walk with a sign makes it become visible and the community more aware that this is going on in their community. I hope it was hard on them [the defendants], and they told me that it was."

It has been difficult, however, to convince local judges to order shaming

as part of a sentence. In one case, a defendant was released from the requirement after a newspaper tried to take a photograph of him walking with his sign.

"That's not the purpose, it's supposed to be public," Moore said. He has had greater success by making shaming part of a plea agreement in which defendants plead guilty and receive a lighter sentence or a favorable sentencing recommendation from the state's attorney's office.

Moore said he is considering expanding the strategy to include shoplifters and DUI offenders, but is still gauging the public reaction to shaming domestic abusers. "I've gotten mostly positive response, but some negative response from city councilors," he said. "They say it's hard on the guy to walk with the sign."

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Calling on reinforcements to help spot meth labs

Sheriff has residents, merchants serving as extra "eyes and noses"

Coffee filters, lithium batteries, engine starter fluid and cold formulas containing pseudoephedrine — all are off-the-shelf products with legitimate uses that would not look suspicious in any home or garage. Yet that same shopping list could be applied to far more sinister purposes by criminals who use the items to mix potentially lethal batches of methamphetamine in the home-grown laboratories being uncovered with increasing frequency by police in Arkansas and other states.

To make merchants and residential property owners aware of the ingredients used in methamphetamine production, the Pulaski County, Ark., Sheriff's Department last month began holding an ongoing series of public meetings with neighborhood watch groups.

Meth labs have been a growing problem in the county, with more than 45 labs discovered this year alone, compared with eight in 1998 and only two the year before that. Production of the drug has shifted in the past 10 years from biker gangs and traveling "cooks" who sold the recipe for thousands of dollars in the underground drug world, to any novice who thinks he or she can follow instructions off of the Internet, said Lieut. Kirk Lane.

The public meetings grew out of Lane's realization that many of the department's patrol officers were themselves unable to recognize the components of a meth lab. Lane, who teaches the civilian classes, said that officers were given what amounts to a chemistry class in the manufacture of the drug. "They [officers] were the front lines on that. We started seeing results right away with guys going on disturbance calls and starting to see chemical packaging and related odors and knowing right away what it was."

"I wouldn't want to be anywhere near a meth dump site."

Training civilians to be the eyes and "noses" of law enforcement when it comes to identifying such labs has also proved a success, he said. "We are starting to get calls from neighborhood groups with residents wanting to get more involved," Lane told Law Enforcement News. One of the areas that has been hit hardest by the proliferation of drug labs, a region known as South Center, has also been the most effective in helping the Sheriff's Department gather information.

"They started calling us quite a bit if they smelled something or somebody came in to purchase something; they started getting on the band wagon," said Lane, adding that in more than 95 percent of the calls, residents have been right on the mark.

The department was able to make cases based on the piles of garbage left behind in the manufacturing process and reported by residents. "We're detecting more and more, and people are being more careful," said Lane.

Civilians are given less intensive training than law enforcement, he said. The department is careful not to inadvertently give instructions on how to make meth, but instead offers contact numbers and information on the hazards associated with the different processes used to make the drug. "We throw in a couple of actual scenarios of what has occurred in their neighborhood specifically," he said.

There are two ways to make meth. The most potentially dangerous uses red phosphorus, which can be obtained from industrial chemists, although some criminals scrape the substance off of matchbook strikers. When overheated, or cooked the wrong way, red phosphorus creates phosphine, a colorless gas that smells like rotting fish.

Phosphine gas is flammable as well as deadly if inhaled, said Lane. Earlier this year, a man manufacturing meth in a darkened hotel room using the red phosphorus method lit a candle to see what his meth looked like, said Lane. The room exploded, severely burning a woman sleeping in a nearby bed.

The biggest concern for law enforcement in Pulaski County, however, is the use of anhydrous ammonia, the other method for concocting the drug. The chemical is used to extract the methamphetamine from ephedrine, which is meth's raw material. Anhydrous ammonia was being put into unregulated tanks, said Lane, such as those used for backyard barbecue grills or forklifts. The substance eats away at the tank, corroding its valves and turning them blue.

Lane said officers were finding the tanks discarded or stashed in the woods. The department was worried about children getting too close to them, opening the valves and breathing in the toxic chemical. "We started putting that out, and we started getting calls from people who were finding tanks with blue fittings," he said.

The Pulaski County sheriff's office and the Little Rock Police Department have been given Federal grants to pay for officers' overtime costs incurred in the seizures of meth labs. Meth cases have become a priority, said Lane. And while police are aware of the health risks to bystanders, the environmental impact of the labs is still unknown.

"We've gone to labs where the cook has just been pouring the chemicals into the ground after the manufacturing process," he told The Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. "I wouldn't want to be anywhere near a meth dump site."

Keeping suburbanite druggies out of town

In an effort to dam the stream of suburban motorists who flock to North Philadelphia to purchase heroin, the city's Police Department has applied for Federal funding to create a joint city-suburban task force that would arrest buyers as they return home with the drug.

It is the steady flow of out-of-towners that has led the department to expand its focus to include buyers. Deputy Police Commissioner Sylvester Johnson told The Philadelphia Inquirer. "We have to send a message to them... Because if you don't have the buyers, then there are no sellers."

The "source-city initiative," as it is called, would funnel some of the drug cases that are now overwhelming Philadelphia's legal system to less crowded courts and jails in outlying areas. Said Chief Inspector Raymond J. Rooney: "A significant percentage of the narcotics problem in Philadelphia is generated from people from outside the city. If we address that, we've addressed part of our problem."

According to narcotics officers, drug counselors and addicts, the 2.4-mile area known as "the Badlands" has become a major regional hub for buying heroin, where the drug is the purest in the country and the second lowest in price, according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. A 30-milligram glassine bag can be had in North Philadelphia for as little as \$5 to \$10.

Moreover, many purchasers feel safe in their cars buying drugs from dealers who openly hawk their wares on street corners. Easy access to Interstate 95, the Vine Street Expressway and the Schuylkill Expressway also provides quick escape routes for buyers from as far away as Pittsburgh, Maryland and Delaware.

"They [addicts] have no fear about going to the Badlands to cop drugs, even when they know they could go down there and never return," said Mary Deverant, director of the Livengrin Foundation, an outpatient counseling center in Fort Washington, Pa.

Of the 4,400 individuals arrested for heroin possession in North Philadelphia since 1992, nearly one-quarter were men 25 or younger — the group that is most likely to stay addicted the longest, according to drug officials. Of men ages 15 to 20 arrested in Philadelphia last year, 13 percent tested positive for heroin, a percentage that is up from five percent in 1990, said Jack Riley, former director of the Federal Arrestee Drug Monitoring Program.

"This may be the very beginning of the heroin problem in a wider-spread context in Philadelphia," he told the Inquirer.

Approximately one-third of those arrested came from out-of-town, according to an analysis of police data by The Inquirer. This year, 33 of the 70 people arrested for heroin possession by the police in the Police Department's East Division were from outside Philadelphia.

But it is not just the number of arrests that has drug officials concerned. Among the region's 18-to-34-year-olds, heroin-abuse deaths accounted for 22 percent of all drug deaths in 1996, up from just 7 percent in 1990. The region also saw a climb in the number of 18-to-25-year-olds needing emergency help at area hospitals for heroin abuse. It grew from 63 per 100,000 in 1992 to 167 per 100,000 five years later. The national average in 1997 was 59 per 100,000.

Last year, one-third of addicts from Philadelphia's suburbs were 24 or younger, a figure that rose from 24 percent in 1995.

Police Department

City of Daytona Beach POLICE COMMANDER

The City of Daytona Beach is seeking an experienced law enforcement professional for the position of Police Commander. The Daytona Beach Police Department has a staff of 247 full-time officers, 105 part-time officers and 130 civilian employees. Under the direction of the Chief of Police, the successful candidate will be assigned as Division Commander in one of three major divisions (Patrol, Criminal Investigations or Special Services) of the Police Department.

To be considered for this position, candidates must have a minimum of a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice or related field; supplemented by a progressively responsible law enforcement career, with a minimum of two (2) years as a full-time Police Lieutenant. Must be able to obtain Florida Law Enforcement Certification with six (6) months of employment. The current salary for the position is up to \$64,708. All applications for this position become public record.

To apply for this position, send a résumé and letter of interest to:

Police Commander Position
Daytona Beach Police Department
Commander Lexie Williams
990 Orange Avenue
Daytona Beach, FL 32114

Application deadline is 5 P.M.,
Friday, January 14, 2000

The City of Daytona Beach is an Affirmative Action/Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Sheriff's on-line message: Crime prevention or soapbox?

Lee County, Fla., Sheriff John McDougall is entitled to call the shots as he sees them, but some county commissioners are questioning whether he has the right to air his conservative views on abortion rights, media moguls and "United Nations one-world government radicals" on a department Web site paid for with public funds.

While the county attorney's office and state Attorney General's office have declined to comment on whether McDougall is violating the law by using the site to trumpet his own opinions, county Commissioner John Manning told The Associated Press: "Anybody can hold their own personal views, but when it comes to taxpayers paying for the Web site there has to be a question...of the appropriateness of that activity."

The Sheriff's message that was posted in late September on the department's home page trumpets the headline, "Wake Up America! Before

it's Too Late!" The statement, which McDougall defends as a crime prevention document, goes on to take shots at atheists, liberal judges, cyber-porn and music videos, among other targets.

"To our disgrace as a nation we have caved into the wishes of the depraved and have allowed them to systematically exclude God from our midst," the message says.

McDougall should seek a new job as an activist for an extremist Christian political organization, said Howard Simon, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Florida, adding that the Sheriff also needs to brush up on his knowledge of the Constitution.

"This is a very distressing document," Simon told The AP. "If I read this from anybody, even a relative of mine, I would suggest the person needs counseling."

If his positions or his tone offend gays, lesbians and other groups,

McDougall, 57, said such individuals should be offended. "Look at what they're doing," he told The AP. Long known for his hard-line views on abortion, McDougall was once asked by a doctor to provide protection from pro-life protesters. The Sheriff replied that he would protect the doctor's free speech as he would protect "a baby killer like yourself."

McDougall has justified his use of the Web site as a crime prevention tool. "I wanted to get the message out there," he told The Fort Myers News-Press. "As a nation, we're dissolving. If we can't see that, we're blind."

McDougall's "Wake Up America!" message was replaced on the Web site in mid-October by a new statement that focuses on drug abuse and attacks those who advocate drug legalization. "Submitting to this evil would be tantamount to treason," asserts McDougall, who specifically focuses his remarks on New Mexico Gary E. Johnson.

Lights shine a little brighter on Broadway

Green Bay officers' problem-solving efforts to clean up business district earn national recognition

Five years ago, the Broadway Business District in Green Bay, Wis., was a decaying part of the city, trashed by a population of transient alcoholics who panhandled from pedestrians and stirred up fights in the neighborhood's many taverns. Today, the area has been slowly turned around, due largely to the work of a community policing team that developed and applied a five-step process — and have now won a prestigious national award for their efforts.

The Police Executive Research Forum, which presents the annual Herman Goldstein Award for Excellence in Problem-Oriented Policing selected the Green Bay team from a pool of 76 nominations submitted by agencies in the United States, Canada, England and Australia. Among the factors for choosing the winner were the development of clear and realistic goals, in-depth analysis of the problem, the use of effective evaluation criteria and the involvement of citizens and community resources in solving the problem.

Officer Bill Bongle was assigned to the Broadway Business District in 1995 under a community policing initiative funded by Federal and state grants. "There were a lot of problems that related to alcohol," he recalled in an interview with Law Enforcement News. "They pretty much centered around a half a dozen taverns and liquor stores. We were finding transients, alcoholics



passed out all over the place, urinating in the doorways of these businesses and panhandling. The whole neighborhood had a very negative image."

After a six-month assessment, Bongle found there was little regulation of liquor licenses of the district's bars. There were also gas station liquor stores and liquor retailers who would continue to sell to customers who were obviously "wasted," he said.



Top-notch problem-solvers: Green Bay police officers Bill Bongle (l.) and Steve Scully.

A five-step process for reversing the decay and reclaiming the neighborhood was developed by Bongle and his partner, Officer Steve Scully, who joined the team in 1997. One of the first items they tackled was getting bar and liquor store owners not to serve a group of individuals who were involved in a many of the neighborhood's violent incidents. "That went over pretty well," he said. "It's almost like they were hoping they could have a crutch or have someone else be the bad guy."

The team also increased enforcement of a zero-tolerance policy, under the second step, called Operation Hot Seat. A modification of the philosophy of crime prevention through environmental design was also included in their plan.

More lights were added to dark alcoves behind the bars; the city's Parks Department ran iron bars down the middle of park benches so transients could not lay down on them, and Bongle had bar owners change "exit" signs to read "exit only" so people could not come back in once they had left.

The plan's fourth step, Bongle said, involved formation of a partnership between the team and the local media. When an incident occurred in the district, it was community policing officers who released the information first so that reporters could "get the right

spin on it and not necessarily damage our neighborhood," he said.

The most difficult task, however, was getting the city to crack down on regulating liquor licenses. "It seemed that no matter what happened, their licenses got approved anyway," he told LEN. When a meeting with four City Council members was unavailing, Bongle and Scully packed hearing audiences with groups of citizens. "And then things started to change," he said. "Things started to happen." Over a period of nearly four years, five taverns were closed. In one case, police learned that a bar manager was selling cocaine over the bar. He was arrested following an undercover sting.

"Part of the reason we felt this was so important was that it was happening within a few hundred feet of an elementary school," said Bongle.

A number of transient alcoholics were removed, many of them into rehabilitation facilities, and others into a different court system so they could receive court-ordered treatment, he said. "A lot of them ended up leaving the area."

By the end of three years, the volume of calls to the Broadway district had fallen by 58 percent, and calls to the rescue squad by 70 percent. With the reduction in crime, new businesses

began to spring up, one old warehouse was converted into a three-story banquet facility, said Bongle.

Overall, some \$8.3 million was invested in the Broadway Business District, including \$3.1 million from the city of Green Bay to change the streetscape of the area. "It's a pretty cool place to shop and you can take your kids down there," he said. "All of these taverns that used to be a horrible problem are not there any more."

Bongle and Scully were honored in November as part of PERF's annual problem-oriented policing conference in San Diego. While the presentation they gave there, "Street Sweeping, Broadway Style," was projected on a big screen, the officers are in the process of creating something for a much smaller screen — an interactive CD-ROM that tells the story of the neighborhood's revitalization.

The CD-ROM, which will be made available to other law enforcement agencies and academic institutions, is being produced by a production company in the Broadway district. If not for that help, said Bongle, the project would have cost roughly \$20,000.

"It's one of the cool little side stories to this whole thing," he said.

In addition to the Green Bay team, six other finalists for the Goldstein Award were recognized by PERF:

¶ The Baltimore Police Department, for a project on abatement of chronic truancy at a middle school;

¶ The Fresno, Calif., Police Department, for its work with other county agencies to develop a method of reducing disputes encountered during child-custody exchanges;

¶ The Minneapolis Police Department, for revitalizing a neighborhood plagued by narcotics trafficking and quality-of-life offenses;

¶ The Racine, Wis., Police Department, for a community-wide effort to reduce the drug trade and revive a high-crime area of the city;

¶ The San Diego Police Department, for a truancy program that dramatically decreased chronic absenteeism for the worst offenders; and

¶ The Vancouver, B.C., Police Department, for a project to restore order in an area known for panhandling, drunkenness, littering and graffiti.

PD goes it alone in charting reforms

By rejecting recommendations made by the Camden County, N.J., prosecutor's office earlier this year on resolving troubling issues of misconduct in the Haddonfield Police Department, local officials have left the municipality wide open to three multimillion-dollar lawsuits and an FBI investigation into anti-Semitic conduct in the agency, critics have charged.

The prosecutor's report, issued in April following a five-month probe of the 24-member department, indicated that the agency was out of control and suggested that borough commissioners Gene Kain, Tish Colombi and Ted Dorn reorganize their government so that Dorn, who is public safety director, could not run the police department. The study also recommended that a police chief from outside the department be appointed.

"I could not have been more blunt," said County Prosecutor Lee Solomon. "I'm satisfied that there could have been no misunderstandings."

During a meeting last spring, Solomon informed borough officials that misconduct was rampant, with incidents of ethnic slurs, petty vandalism and harassment. In one incident, a dead rat was left on an officer's doorstep, where it was found by his child.

But instead of taking the prosecutor's suggestions to heart, commissioners promoted Lieut. Richard Tsontis to chief in July, despite allegations that he had offered a radio dispatcher 200 hours of compensatory time if she agreed to have sex with him. While Tsontis has denied the charges, the incident has resulted in a \$5.25-million sexual discrimination lawsuit being filed against the borough.

The commissioners also remain

loyal to Dorn, although the public safety director is involved in a dispute with a member of the department which has led to the filing of a \$17.2-million suit in Federal court in September.

The officer, George Ames, had sued the borough and its officials in February 1998 claiming he was discriminated against after turning in evidence of ticket-fixing to the Prosecutor's Office. The borough countered, alleging Ames was trying to intimidate officials.

In September, Dorn brought Ames up on departmental charges, including conduct unbefitting an officer. He was also suspended without pay for possessing "lewd and offensive material." The charges, said Dorn, stemmed from findings in the prosecutor's report.

"All the turmoil would stop and all the shenanigans would stop if Ted [Dorn] would step down," Haddonfield Solicitor Mario Iavicoli told The Philadelphia Inquirer, "but then that would be knuckling in to thug reactions."

In the third suit to hit the borough, Officer Jason Cutler, who is Jewish, is seeking \$3.75 million, saying he was discriminated against because of his religion. The charges have reportedly led to an investigation by the FBI into anti-Semitic conduct in the department. An internal police investigation will also be launched into the sexual-discrimination charges made by Jennifer Downs, the radio dispatcher.

"I don't think the conditions have gotten better over the last several months," Solomon told The Inquirer. "And unfortunately, as is the case in many of these situations in and out of police departments, I think people are looking for someone to blame instead of taking responsibility to correct the situation and move on."

POLICE CHIEF Bridgeport, Connecticut

Responsible for a department consisting of 475 commissioned officers and 116 civilian employees and an annual operating budget of \$34 million. Candidate should possess the ability to plan, organize and coordinate the activities of the department to develop and make more effective the procedures and techniques of law enforcement; to keep abreast of modern developments in all the branches of police work, and have extensive knowledge of the principles of modern police management.

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Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstrate active and successful experience in advanced professional education, including drug enforcement. Preference will be given to successful labor-management experience.

Selection Process: Candidates will submit résumés and file an application provided by the Civil Service Commission. Résumés will be evaluated and highest rated candidates invited to participate in an assessment center process. The International Association of Chiefs of Police will assist the city with the search process.

The final selection will be made by the mayor from the three highest-ranking candidates. The term of office shall be for five years. One additional term of five years may be offered. The salary for the position is \$88,750 to \$97,500 and there is a comprehensive package of fringe benefits.

Bridgeport, the largest city in the state of Connecticut, is located in the southwestern portion of the state. The population of Bridgeport is 142,000 persons.

Request applications and additional information in writing or by phone as soon as possible from: John Colligan, Personnel Director, Civil Service Commission, 45 Lyon Terroce, Bridgeport, CT 06604. (203) 576-7106. Application deadline: Jan. 7, 2000.

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Forum

Mills:

'Favela policing' — an American cop meets the slums of Rio

By Andy Mills

It's early summer in Rio de Janeiro and the "favela" is hot. The residents of this Brazilian ghetto watch as the parade of police vehicles creep by one after another. Riding four deep in the cars, the officers have automatic rifles sticking out of the windows. This is war!

Favela is a Brazilian term for slum. This particular favela consists of about 180,000 residents crammed into a small area with primitive living conditions. It is a violent, dangerous and crime-ridden housing project.

Here there are thousands of 10 foot by 10 foot homes with no running water, open sewers and rodent infested walls. It is in communities like this one, which can be found all over the state of Rio de Janeiro, that over 400 officers were murdered and another 1,500 were wounded from 1995 to April 1997. During a similar period, 1,194 suspected "thieves and drug dealers" were killed in the course of police contacts. Seventy-two percent of all police shootings result in the suspect's death, compared to 13 percent in the United States. Looking into the faces of innocent children and indifferent adults, one has to wonder: Could something have been done to prevent a catastrophe of such enormous proportions?

Conversations with officers, commanders, journalists, academics and citizens about the problems of the favela show that there are two things everyone agrees on: Even though things have been bad for a long time, they got worse in 1995, and the police were the catalyst for much of the violence.

Reading news accounts of what took place in the favelas and listening to the average officer, I saw, despite the immense differences in the magnitude of the problem and the number of lives lost, there are elements in common with this observer and with our experience in the United States. Some ingrained cultural behaviors can be observed in Brazil, and their counterpart behaviors in the United States, if left unchecked, could spell trouble for us.

Zealots for a cause

Riding through the favela, one notices an inscription in brass on the dashboard of the police Suburban. One of the officers, when asked what the saying meant, replied, "If God is for us, who can be against us?" It was not the religious nature of the saying that was bothersome, so much as the belief system and the underlying goal of the police that it spoke to. The local police, it appears, see their mandate as a kind of Islamic jihad or Spanish Inquisition.

Pulled out of context, the significance of this

Andy Mills is a sergeant with the San Diego Police Department.

Letters

"We know DARE works"

To the editor:

It was with great interest that I reviewed the article about D.A.R.E. in the Sept. 30, 1999, edition of Law Enforcement News. This article showed only what everybody already knows — drug education needs to be followed up in the middle and high schools. If this is not accomplished by a particular jurisdiction for whatever reason, can we truly say that the program does not work on a nationwide scale?

I must admit that I found it curious that in all of the statistics listed, no information was given

scripture cannot be overlooked. The police believe they are on the side of righteousness. If you have a god on your side, even if that god is a political, social or religious cause, then anything becomes justifiable — even torture and murder.

Whether your God-ordained, righteous cause is crime-fighting, preventing abortion, protecting a lifestyle, saving furry animals or ethnic cleansing, the effect is the same. If your cause is righteous, improper behavior can be justified. You have a god on your side. Certainly the Jesus described by the Bible would not say executing drug dealers is permissible. He said exactly the opposite, in fact: "Blessed are the peacemakers..." and "Love your neighbor as yourself."

When we view ourselves as part of a righteous war, and those we hunt as enemies of good, it is easy to justify unethical, illegal and immoral behavior. "That couldn't happen here," you say? Maybe not, but is this not reflected to some degree in accounts of police, in the interest of fighting crime, having manufactured probable cause, robbed dope dealers, stretched the truth on the witness stand, planted evidence or coerced confessions? Is it not reflected in the imprisonment of 200-plus officers last year? If these things are possible, anything is.

Unreal war stories

American policing is filled with its larger-than-life legends. Many have graced the front seat of our patrol cars. Gary Slocum and R.D. Brown are two of my favorites. Hearing their names brings a smile to the face of any veteran San Diego police officer. In San Diego, the common fable was that everybody in our division had an R.D. Brown name tag. When angry citizens asked for your name, you told them R.D. Brown and displayed a name tag to match. The legend grows with every passing academy class and now, many years later, young officers believe the legend as fact, when all along it was a "big fish that got away" story.

While the new officers do not sport brass plates that bear the name of this senior, crusty legend of a detective, they see the organizational paradigm as lying to angry citizens and protecting one another through dishonesty. They believe the practice is condoned by senior officers, when it is not.

Exaggeration and war stories can add flavor to the character of the organization, but more often they do us a huge disservice. War stories leave us with the impression that teaching people a lesson for running from the police is acceptable, that treating people of color with disrespect is common practice, that speeding through residential neighborhoods "hustling to calls" is the cost of doing business. Stories grow and take on a life of their own, perverting the truth and opening up a Pandora's box. You combine this perversion of truth with awful stories that are true, and it be-



Mud walls, rampant rodents and no running water except for the open-air sewers — it's part of life in favelas like this one in Rio de Janeiro.

comes hard to separate fact from fiction. An officer once told me his respect for Miranda entailed throwing suspects from a bridge into a frozen river. True or not, that type of fable-telling tends to desensitize the profession and build false bravado in already hardened officers, leaving a psychological excuse for pathetic behavior. Stories of getting away with abuse and shooting favela-dwellers abound. Story-telling is part of the problem.

My ghetto is worse than yours

As I pondered the depravity of the favela surrounding me, a reporter asked, "Surely, you have never seen a slum this bad?" There was almost a perverse sense of pride in the tone with which he asked the question. I'm not sure that I have, with its deplorable, filthy conditions for miles, absence of social and human services, blatant criminality and widespread injustice. Still, the pride in the reporter's question was bewildering. It was a comment I would also hear from police.

In Rio, a tourist industry has actually sprung up around the favelas, which allows you to sign up for bus tours and take photos of the squalor

from scenic spots. While we in the United States don't have bus tours of our impoverished communities, in policing we do have bragging rights over whose ghetto is the worst, whose beat is the worst and whose district is most like "Fort Apache."

Policing has developed this depraved sense of pride in the need to police the worst place on Earth. The police culture awards bragging rights to the cops who work the "Hill Street Blues"-type slums, who believe they have to carry two or three backup weapons, and believe they are in continuous peril. The unintended result is we develop this belief system that the more homicides, violence and drugs, the more worth we have as a department. So, in a strange twist, out-of-control conditions becomes a source of some pride. This makes no sense and, worse, is counterproductive.

An unclear message

The messages leaders and managers send will be amplified tenfold at the bottom of the organization. When management says "Get the job done, I don't care what it takes," or "We have zero tolerance on crime," the message at the bottom translates to, "Throw out the book boys, the party has just begun."

This convoluted message-sending is apparent in Rio. Police officials explained to me that after a new governor took over in 1995, they were told,

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Note to Readers:

The opinions expressed on the Forum page are those of the contributing writer or cartoonist, or of the original source newspaper, and do not represent an official position of Law Enforcement News.

Readers are invited to voice their opinions on topical issues, in the form of letters or full-length commentaries. Please send all materials to the editor.

What goes around comes around:

Bean bags, nets once again capture police fancy

Continued from Page 1

shot in the hand when the department deployed bean bags during a standoff with 58-year-old Jerry Hine, who had barricaded himself inside his home. Police had responded at the request of the Mobile Outreach Crisis Services Unit, a city- and state-funded agency that had been called by Hine's family to bring him to Parkside Hospital for admittance.

According to Goree, Hine had been told to wait for police in front of his house, but instead went into his backyard and came out shooting in the general direction of the officers. He then went along the side of his house toward

the driveway where the sergeant and his team were assembled to take him into custody using less-than-lethal force. As Hine rounded the house, said Goree, he went down on the ground, possibly after having tripped. Officer Thomas Dugan, believing Hine had been shot, approached him to take him into custody. Hine began firing and a shot grazed Dugan's hand.

"At that point, I cannot tell you why deadly force was not used," Goree told LEN. "It would have been within our policy for deadly force to be employed; it would be the expectation. I do not know whether the officer did not have a clear shot or did not like the back-

drop for taking a shot, or whether Sgt. [Dave] Edwards was just so quick at taking the shot with the less-lethal that the other person did not have time. Those are all things we are going to investigate."

The Taser "stun gun," which has long enjoyed widespread use in law enforcement, was deployed in the past year in Baltimore. With two prongs that can reach a distance of 10 to 15 feet, the Taser delivers a 50,000-volt electric shock that can incapacitate a suspect. The department has used the Taser twice in the past month, both times effectively, said Maj. John McEntee, the commander of special operations.

The technology helps the department do a better job, he told LEN. "There have been a couple of incidents where deadly force had been deployed on people with mental problems and things like that where the opportunity to use less-than-lethal wasn't available," said McEntee. "Now looking back on the situations where you had used deadly force, you think to yourself 'Is it possible the outcome could have been better had we had this alternative available to us?'"

One of the areas of concern with any less-than-lethal alternative is the ability for officers to use it in spontaneous or rapidly evolving situations, explained Ray Downs, deputy director of research and development for the National Institute of Justice's science and technology section.

That concern may help to explain why capture nets have tended to go in and out of style. Most of the nets currently available to law enforcement are

too bulky to be carried around, Downs told LEN, but by making them smaller, they could then lose their effectiveness.

"There are a variety of scenarios, things that happen on the street when officers go to investigate an incident," said Downs. "They need something right then."

Pepper spray, which is used by an estimated 90 percent of police departments, according to NIJ data, has been successful in such situations. Even there, however, the question arise as to whether an officer can or should discharge the weapon in the confined space of a dwelling.

When there is time for a team to arrive, a capture net can be a viable alternative, Downs believes. There are several on the market now, including one by Foster-Miller Inc., a Waltham, Mass., firm.

Shawn Gaskell, a Foster-Miller engineer, said the company has designed a device called the "Webshot," a 15-foot Kevlar net that comes in two sizes: one that fits into a holder about the size

of a tear-gas canister, and the second that can be folded small enough to fit in a holster on a gun belt. The device is so intimidating, Gaskell told LEN, that in most cases the suspect has given up rather than be netted.

Downs said that NIJ has awarded partial funding to a small company that is developing a net that could be shot out from a baton. "We funded that initial work in part because people in our review process thought it had some appeal because it's two-in-one," he said. But in speaking with officers, the need seems to be greater for a compact device that can be easily carried. "Whether that can work in the field or not remains to be seen," said Downs.

One of the advantages of a net, however, is that it is not a chemical agent and has the image, he said, of being less hazardous to a suspect's health. "I think there is a growing interest in finding alternatives to guns and batons," said Downs. "There is more interest on the part of companies to find alternatives than there once was."



BEST OF BOTH WORLDS? A weapon trade-named "The Option," invented by Ed Ludaescher Jr. of the Oxnard, Calif., Police Department SWAT team, offers lethal and non-lethal capabilities in a single unit, with a cylinder of OC spray that is mounted to the barrel of a pistol or shoulder weapon.

Girding for extremist action as the millennium approaches

Continued from Page 1

Cases are investigating crimes that have already occurred and that have been linked in one way or another to a domestic terrorism group."

With an influx of hundreds of new agents, Blitzer said, the bureau has been able to develop additional investigations into criminal activity that might have gone unnoticed in the past.

He added that while the number of individuals involved in the patriot movement seems to have decreased, those that are left are more serious than the kind witnessed in the early 1990s. "They are much more concerned about security," he said, "and being penetrated by law enforcement. They're just more careful."

Blitzer said he believes that the potential for violence will not be any greater than it has been over the past few years, although there will be "little eruptions" around the nation. "The millennium is certainly an event that a lot of extremists are focusing on," he told Klanwatch. "There probably is some sense that something will happen. We're not seeing anything in the cases that we've been working pointing to any particular planned violent action around that time."

A recent report by the Anti-Defamation League, "Y2K Paranoia: Extremists Confront the Millennium," has also assessed the potential for violence by religious and secular groups, including some Christian factions that link the Y2K computer bug to the coming of the Antichrist.

"The millennium is certainly an event that a lot of extremists are focusing on."

minister, and Jerry Jenkins, a former sportswriter, that describe a millennial future in which Christians disappear to heaven and those left on Earth suffer at the hands of an Antichrist in the person of the Secretary General of the United Nations.

Groups along the extremist political spectrum whose ideology is discussed in the ADL's report include the Fargo, N.D.-based National Socialist White Revolutionary Party, a neo-Nazi group that believes the Russians will use the crash of the nation's computer systems due to the Y2K bug to launch a nuclear, biological and chemical strike against the United States.

According to the ADL report, the NSWRP believes the attack will begin with a "disinformation news broadcast in which a phony holographic image of President Clinton or Vice-President Gore...directs military and civil authorities throughout the U.S. to disregard and disobey any subsequent orders that they may receive from Washington, as there has been a military insurrection or coup against the legitimate U.S. government." In the end, Russian and Chinese forces will invade under the banner of the United Nations.

Another group described by the ADL, the National Association for the Advancement of White People, founded by former Ku Klux Klan leader David Duke, contends that when the Y2K bug causes shortages of food, heat and money, blacks who are receiving Government assistance will riot, stealing essential supplies from whites.

That philosophy is also espoused by another Christian Identity preacher, Dan Gayman of the Missouri-based Church of Israel, according to the ADL report. "America is pulsating with explosive societal problems," Gayman wrote in "The Watchman," his group's flagship publication. "Growing numbers of non-white, third world people are being supported by public welfare assistance programs. If these monetary welfare programs were disrupted even for a short time, the social structure of America would crumble," he said. "Civil chaos could quickly turn America into a land of unbridled killing, plunder, looting and raging fires."

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Lesson on police violence from Rio's favelas

Continued from Page 8

"Shoot first and ask questions later." They did. The result was that officer-involved shootings rose by 34 percent the following year and an additional 20 percent the year after that. Sadly, officer deaths rose at the same pace. Prior to 1994, Rio lost an average of 24 officers a year. That number rose dramatically after the edict.

There were other unintended results of the new governor's approach. Blacks were three and a half times more likely than whites to be killed by police when the figures are adjusted to per capita population. Poor people living in the favelas were six times more likely to be killed. Of those cases, 83 percent had no civilian witnesses. In 29 percent of the cases, drugs were seized. Only 19 percent of the cases were classified as crimes in progress.

One has to wonder aloud if, under the "get tough/zero tolerance" policy in New York and other cities, the same dynamics are beginning here in the United States. The NYPD has earned our respect and admiration for their unprecedented reductions in crime and an increase in the feeling of safety. But through the well-intended approach of zero tolerance and Compstat, has the

wrong message gone out — a message that appears to say that results are more important than people? In addition to the sensational cases of Abner Louima and Amadou Diallo, complaints against officers in New York are up 60 percent over 1995. Would the officers who are soon to stand trial in New York for the Diallo homicide have avoided this problem had they not been led down that path with a wrong message? I don't know, but those at the executive level should ask these self-effacing questions of one another.

Why things work here

Not everything we do is wrong. In fact, most of what we do is right, which is why American policing is a model for the world to follow. In terms of use of force, we have done very well policing one of the most violent societies. The quality, character and dedication of individual officers has helped American policing to be among the best in the world. Here is what our officers are doing, and should continue to do, to prevent violence by and against the police.

Humanitarian service is the cornerstone of American justice. In my travels around the country and seeing hun-

dreds of officers in action, I treasure their sense of humanity. I saw an officer go from being the victim of a vicious assault to removing the pepper spray from the eyes and the discharge from the nose of his assailant. Another officer switched gears from engaging a deranged man attempting "suicide by cop" to providing CPR to preserve the man's life. A sergeant dipped into his own pocket to purchase a wheelchair for an invalid transient beggar. I have watched my officers take a family of kids abandoned by their dope-fiend mother to McDonald's for lunch. Treating people with dignity and respect, and being fair in spite of personal beliefs, can promote a police culture of humanitarian justice and protect us from the growth of abuse.

Greater power, greater need for control

There are few external controls in Rio. Sao Paulo, its larger neighbor to the south, had a problem with police violence also. In 1995 officials there increased the quality of the officer-involved shooting investigations, removed those involved in multiple shooting from the field for extensive

debriefing and implemented a review policy that included civilian oversight. That, coupled with community policing and six months of training, dramatically reduced police homicides. Homicides by police dropped from almost 500 annually to under 250.

The police have four sources of incredible power: constitutional, legislative, positional and personal. Each of these powers need an appropriate counterbalance. To control our constitutional power, we have training, policy and procedures. Legislatively, we are held accountable and exposed to retribution through criminal law and civil litigation. Positional power is counterbalanced through censure, internal affairs and citizen oversight.

Personal power to me is the strongest and the one left unchecked. It is hard to control because it is essentially cultural and those without it are unlikely to confront those with it. Because of this power, there is one more element needed and I believe it is the most important. Policing needs a culture of moral leadership and courage.

Courage to confront inappropriate behavior

The single most observable trait missing in Rio, but present in agencies that have very few problems, is moral courage. The ability to confront others. Not nit-picky infighting or damning accusations, but recognizing a problem, thinking it through and confronting the behavior in a timely and direct manner. Most of us, this writer included, would rather gossip about misbehavior with everyone except, of course, the individual exhibiting the behavior. From San Diego to Seattle, Portland to Miami and every point in between, policing needs to develop leaders at every level of the organization who are willing to ride the heat and call to account those who behave in an inappropriate or unjust manner.

Bring a message of peace. I resent the parallels that some make between policing and war. We are not at war. We are here to bring peace and, through peace, a message of hope. An old Jewish proverb states, "When the city is at peace, its people prosper." Community policing, for all its shortcomings, has helped to bring about a message of peace. Hope has been the result. We have and need the ability to bring violence under control rapidly and by force if necessary. But as peace makers, our mission must be to enable all people to live at peace with one another.

Living peacefully includes the police. One finding in the study of shootings in Rio was that those of color were more likely to be killed than those who were white. Herman Goldstein has said, "Today in policing, the bottom line is racial tensions in our large urban areas, and there is no escaping that." Many community members believe they are unfairly singled out for enforcement and have coined the phrase

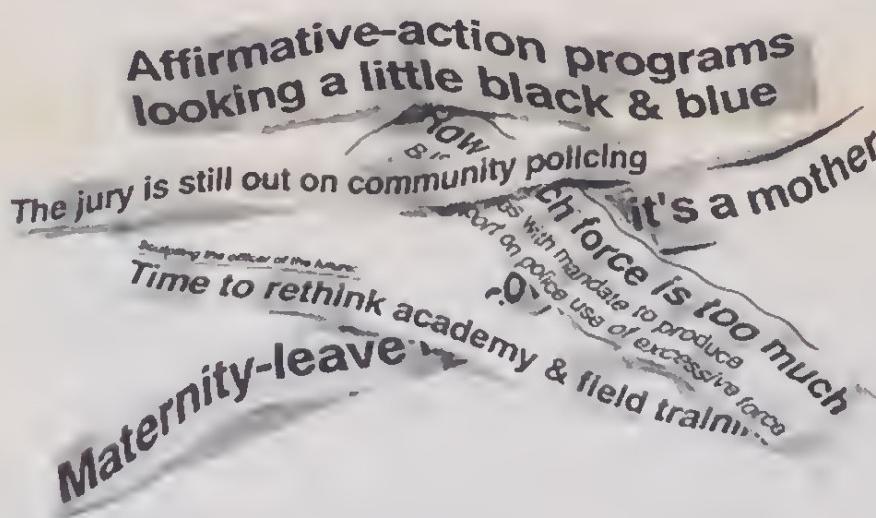
"Driving While Black." We in policing must confront this perception as reality, analyze the problem through complete and accurate data, then provide real answers to the community. Shallow and incomplete studies or circling the wagons through stonewalling will cause further division and validate the belief of unfair police practices. We must open ourselves to public scrutiny. This is the first step in bringing a message of peace.

Clarity of mission is crucial to success. I'm not speaking of some plaque that hangs on the wall with a couple of sayings that everyone memorizes for promotional interviews. I'm speaking about how average officers, detectives and sergeants view their job. Police executives can say we are a community policing/problem-solving agency all they want, but if the average field cop sees his or her job as rapid response and supervisors see their job as keeping calls from holding, then that becomes their mission. We asked our officers in focus group settings how they see our department in terms of primary responsibility and level of problem-solving. Many still see their job as handling radio calls, while more and more they are viewing it as solving problems, and radio calls are a part of that mission.

Police leaders around the country are sending mixed messages. The mission is unclear. It is dishonest for us to continue the common practice of mouthing one thing, (community policing, problem-solving, just enforcement, fairness) and practicing another. It is one of the bigger ethical problems in policing today, and it is widespread. Most curious is why key police executives have not stepped forward to expose and confront these issues. With the current flashpoint issues facing the police, it is time for true leadership to step forward. This writer has attended conferences and executive sessions where ethics are discussed, and officers are rightfully denounced for unethical behavior and hiding behind a code of silence. Top management is no different. These problems extend to the highest levels of local, state and Federal government. I have heard of chiefs who received Federal money for COPS officers and deploy them as rapid responders. With such dishonesty at the top, how can we expect more from the police at the operations level?

I'm proud to have pinned on a badge and strapped on a gun and bulletproof vest to serve my community for over 14 years. I deeply care for this profession that works hard to restrain deviant people who would prey on the innocent. But for us to stay the course we must be humanitarian, encourage external controls, develop leaders at every level with the courage to confront problems and bring a spirit of peace and justice to our communities. Failure to do so could result in us inching closer to favela policing, where more than 400 officers have lost their lives.

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Seattle review panel's files are missing

Continued from Page 1

ficers whose performance and behavior is problematic. The program would assist officers in succeeding rather than subjecting them to a system that "functions as a form of discipline."

¶ Setting a threshold number of complaints that would automatically trigger an administrative review of superiors.

¶ Teaching ethics and internal investigative policies in conjunction, rather than as two separate issues.

¶ Including ethics and internal investigative materials with others given to new recruits at the start of their academy training.

Nearly all of the recommendations will be adopted by the department, said officials, although some will require City Council approval and others are subject to contract talks with the city's police union.

The only recommendation to be rejected by Mayor Paul Schell was a proposal to open all internal-affairs files to public scrutiny. Although a key recommendation of the committee, Schell and Police Chief Norm Stamper said such public access would have a chilling effect on both police officers and witnesses.

A compromise that was reached to substitute a summary of unsustained findings to complainants instead of full public access was deemed a "reasonable balance," said Mike McKay, a former U.S. attorney who served on the panel.

"I am a very enthusiastic supporter of the panel's recommendations," said Stamper. Both he and Schell said they hoped to have a director of the OPA post hired by Jan. 1. The director would serve for three years at an annual salary of about \$100,000. Under the proposal, Stamper could overrule the director's recommendation only with a written finding that would provide just cause for doing so.

In response to the review panel's report, Stamper and Schell unveiled an "Accountability Action Plan" that will serve as a blueprint for implementing the recommendations. It included a 12-point plan to address internal integrity by Stamper. Some of his points are already contained in the accountability plan, such as an early warning system and the chief's direct involvement in ethics training.

Others include a new performance evaluation system that will hold supervisors and managers accountable for assessing and intervening employee performance problems at the earliest possible moment; a regular review of tenure in assignments; a briefing of both the chief and the assistant chief of the professional responsibility bureau each week on all complaints of officer misconduct; increased penalties for failure to report misconduct; the establishment of an Employee Relations Advisory Committee, and the referral to the FBI Public Corruption Unit of all allegations of corruption involving SPD personnel. The captain of the SPD's Internal Investigation Section will be responsible for making the appropriate referrals.

Earlier this month, Schell and Stamper called in the FBI to look into the disappearance of two files that were generated by the review panel. The files contained the testimony of police officers and civilians who had been interviewed by committee members on a confidential basis. The files were apparently handed over to the department by Schell's office on the advice of the City Attorney, so that private information, such as names, addresses and phone numbers, could be expunged before the records were released publicly.

"It was a gaffe and a mistake and something that looks bad," said Assistant Chief Clark Kimerer. "I think we agree that they should not have been sent to the department," he told The Seattle Times.

According to a source cited by The Times, the department took custody of the box containing the files for 36 hours, and they were locked in a safe controlled by one person. They were removed for about 30 minutes to discuss how to edit the records. A panel investigator later determined that two files were missing.

What is troubling to the department is that the files included a statement by Kimerer and two statements by KOMO-TV reporter Liz Rocca, who complained in 1997 after a lieutenant called the reporter's supervisor and told him Rocca was gay because he did not like a story she aired.

Kimerer, who was a captain at that time, apologized to Rocca, but said that Lieut. Joe Kessler had acted within his rights as a private citizen. The panel later determined that the phone call could be construed as felony extortion, according to The Times.

While most of the material from the files has

been retrieved from the hard drive of the review panel's computer, Schell and Stamper are still trying to determine what happened to the originals. The FBI has employed polygraph examinations, but it is unclear whether the case will be solved because the documents apparently passed through so many hands from the Mayor's Office to the Police Department. At least eight people handled the records in September and October. There is also a question of whether the files were among the documents the department received in the first place.

Schell convened the committee last spring af-

ter allegations that Earl "Sonny" Davis Jr., a former homicide detective, had stolen at least \$10,000 from the home of a man killed in a police shooting in 1996.

According to testimony given in King County Superior Court by Davis's partner, Cloyd Steiger, he saw the 55-year-old Davis pocket a bundle of money found in a sewing cabinet. Prosecutors contend that the money was returned the next day by Davis and his sergeant, Don Cameron, who staged the discovery of the cash after being angrily confronted by Steiger. Steiger mentioned the incident to a King County prosecutor.

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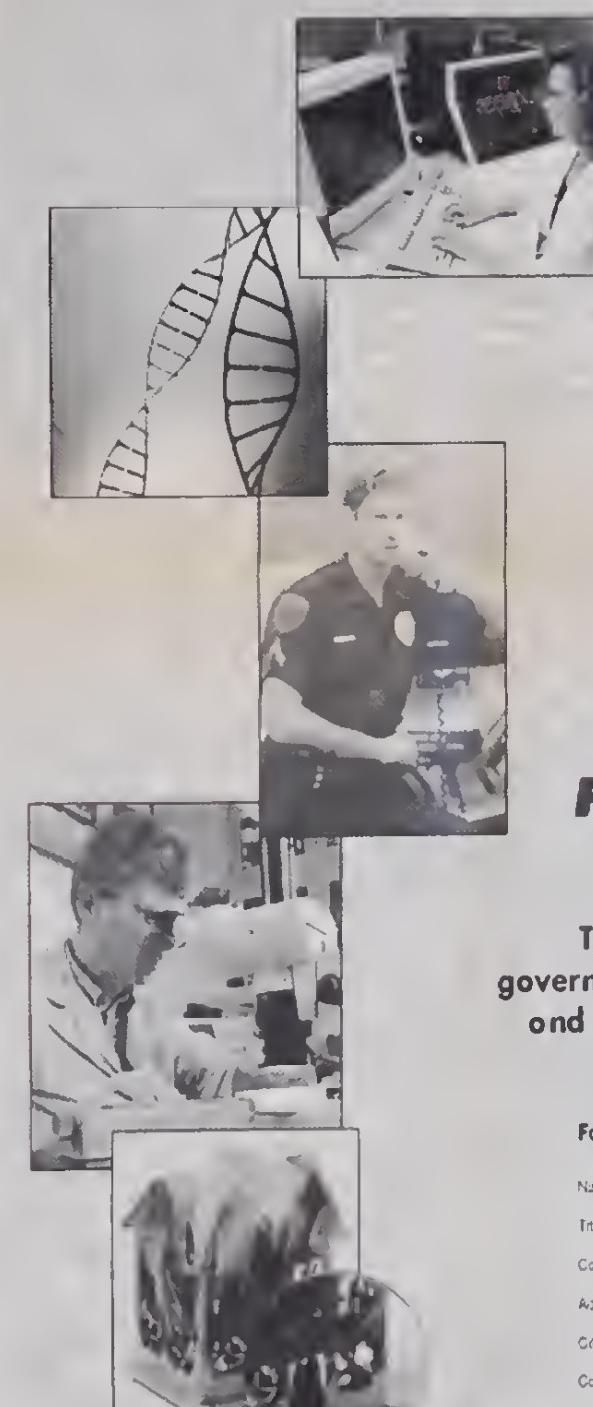
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"My slum is worse than yours. . ."

A San Diego sergeant draws lessons on police violence from the *favelas* of Rio de Janeiro.
Forum, Page 8.

The best? Who says?

The people of Green Bay, Wis., that's who.

Find out why, on **Page 7.**



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What They Are Saying:

"Civil chaos could quickly turn America into a land of unbridled killing, plunder, looting and raging fires."

— From a Christian Identity tract cited in a recent report on extremist political and religious groups gearing up for the millennium. (Story, Page 1.)